

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LAGOS 04642 131349Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-14 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 OMB-01
SSM-05 TRSE-00 /106 W
-----121861 131355Z /14

O R 131116Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7853
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS LAGOS 04642

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, MARR, UNSC, XF
SUBJECT: NIGERIAN CONTINENT FOR UNIFIL

1. FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT (FMG) ANNOUNCED
APRIL 12 THAT NIGERIA WOULD SEND "NOT MORE THAN
A BATTALION" OF NIGERIAN TROOPS TO SOUTHERN LEBANON.
ANNOUNCEMENT, WHICH WAS CARRIED ON LOCAL MEDIA
EVENING OF APRIL 12, RECEIVED FRONT PAGE COVERAGE
IN TWO NATIONAL DAILIES APRIL 13. ACCORDING TO
NEW NIGERIAN, ALEX NWOKEDI, PRESS SECRETARY, STATE
HOUSE, SAID THAT THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL HAD
DECIDED TO SEND 1,000 SOLDIERS.

2. DAILY TIMES CARRIED TEXT OF ANNOUNCEMENT AS
FOLLOWS:
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"THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL, AFTER CONSIDERING
A FORMAL REQUEST FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE
UNITED NATIONS FOR NIGERIA TO CONTRIBUTE A BATTALION
TO THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE KEEPING FORCE IN SOUTH
LEBANON, HAS DECIDED TO SEND NIGERIAN TROOPS OF NOT
MORE THAN A BATTALION STRENGTH TO SOUTHERN LEBANON

TO PERFORM PEACE KEEPING OPERATIONS AS PART OF OTHER
UNITED NATIONS CONTINGENTS IN THE AREA UNDER THE
UNITED NATIONS COMMAND."

3. IDENTICAL BACKGROUND REPORTS WERE CARRIED ON
NIGERIAN TELEVISION AND IN DAILY TIMES OUTLING
HISTORY OF NIGERIAN PEACE KEEPING OPERATIONS:

--- NIGERIAN ARMY PARTICIPATED IN SIMILAR
OPERATIONS IN ZAIRE 1960 TO 1963.

-- NIGERIANS WERE PART OF UN OBSERVER FORCE
IN KASHMIR IN 1965.

-- NIGERIANS SENT TROOPS TO TANZANIA IN 1964
AT THE REQUEST OF NYERERE TO QUELL A REVOLT IN
TANZANIAN ARMY.
WYMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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